GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:466
ANSWERED ON:27.04.2000
SECURITY THREAT FROM SHOPS OF SANTHUSTHI COMPLEX
M.V.V.S MURTHI;SHIVAJI MANE

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some shops owned by certain high profile people in the Santhusthi Complex near Prime Minister`s residence is reportedly described by the Defence Ministry as a threat to P.M.`s security;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether this land belongs to Defence Authorities;

(d) if so, the reasons for which the private parties have been allowed to run the shops; and

(e) the remedial action proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) to (e): The Santushti Complex is a shopping complex set up on land in the possession of Indian Air Force. The lease rent from the shops was reported to be utilised for funding various schemes of welfare of Air Force personnel being undertaken by the Air Force Wives` Welfare Association. The shops in the complex have been allotted to private persons. Government have no report from the concerned security agencies about the shopping complex posing any threat to Prime Minister`s security. Since use of the defence land for setting up of the shopping complex was not authorised, the management of the complex has been taken over by the Defence Estate Officer from February 1998 and action is being taken under law for removal of unauthorised occupation.